

Rule 312 Amendment
Applicant: Ganesan, et al.
Filed: May 8, 2001
Application No.: 09/849,979

Remarks

The present amendments to the claims are directed at purely typographical or clerical errors and omissions that resulted from rewriting dependent claims in independent form to place them in a condition for allowance after the decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. The present amendments correct these errors. In addition, various dependent claims have been amended to improve readability and understanding of the claims, and to correct typographical or clerical errors and omissions. No new matter is introduced.

Specifically, Claims 59-68, 70-79, and 82-106 remain in this application. Claim 107 has been cancelled. Claims 60-63, 71-75, 77, 79, 82, 85-86, 91, 98-99, 104-105 are amended.

More specifically, dependent Claims 60 and 71 are amended to remove “the electronic greeting card includes a hyperlink;” because that limitation is recited in the respective independent Claims 64 and 75, and is therefore superfluous. Dependent Claims 61, 85, and 91 are amended to combine the step of “activating the hyperlink” with the following step so as to improve the readability and understanding of the claims. Dependent Claims 62, 73, 86, 99, and 105 are amended to remove the phrase “associated with the designated recipient,” as the independent claims from which these claims depend do not include this term, thus improving the readability and understanding of these claims. Dependent Claim 82, which is substantially identical to Dependent Claim 88, is amended to now depend from Claim 28 instead of Claim 63 because dependent Claim 88 also depends from Claim 63. Dependent Claims 62, 72, 82, 85, 91, 98, 99, 104, and 105 are amended to now depend from Claims 61, 71, 68, 84, 90, 97, 98, 103, and 104, respectively, to correct typographical errors in reassigning the dependencies. Dependent Claims 86 and 92 are amended to include the step of “receiving, via activation of the

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hyper-link, information identifying the designated recipient” to improve readability and understanding of the claim and to further describe “information identifying the designated recipient.” The preamble of dependent Claim 95 is amended to refer to the “system of Claim 74.” Claim 107 is canceled.

Additionally, independent Claim 63 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the element “a hyper-link.” Further, independent Claim 63 is amended to remove the duplicative step of “directing a crediting of funds equal to the monetary gift amount to a deposit account” and correct antecedent basis for the “deposit account” element. This step is duplicative of a step already positively recited in the claim, and was unintentionally included when rewriting the claims in light of the allowed subject matter. Accordingly, removing this step from Claim 63 does not affect the patentability of the claim, particularly the step of “further transmitting, via the network, the transmitted electronic greeting card including a hyper-link and the notification of the monetary gift to a non-designated recipient,” as indicated by the Decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences and by the Examiner in the Reasons for Allowance. Claim 63 is additionally amended to combine the step of “activating the hyperlink” with the subsequent step to correct inconsistencies that resulted from combining the dependent and independent claim limitations during the prior amendments and to improve the readability and understanding of the claim. Independent Claim 74, the system counterpart to Claim 63, is similarly amended to remove the duplicative recitation of “wherein the processor is further configured to direct funds equal to the monetary gift amount to be credited to a deposit account” and to correct antecedent basis for the “deposit account” element. Independent Claims 74 and 75 are amended for stylistic purposes and to improve readability by including only a single “wherein: ” followed by the series

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of clauses. Independent Claims 77 and 79 are amended to improve readability by adding "and" between the second to last and the last clause.

Entry of the foregoing amendments before issuance of a patent on the present application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Malvern U. Griffin III
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,899

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN, LLP
999 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309-3996
(404) 853-8233
(404) 853-8806 (fax)
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